



## State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

### PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON UTILITIES  
ENGINEERING, FINANCIAL AND LEGAL SERVICES  
SRF # DW 12 02 53 04**

**Date: September 29, 2011**

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the City of Bloomington Utilities Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), dated September 13, 2011 describing the engineering, financial and legal services for the Monroe Water Treatment Plant Expansion and the Southeast Water System Improvements will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

*How were environmental issues considered?*

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement.

*Why is additional environmental review not required?*

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

*How do I submit comments?*

Comments can be submitted to:

Max Henschen, Senior Environmental Manager  
SRF Programs  
317-232-8623; mhensche (at) ifa.in.gov

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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

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### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:                   **Engineering, Financial and Legal Services  
Monroe Water Treatment Plant Expansion, and  
Southeast Water System Improvements**  
City of Bloomington Utilities  
600 E. Miller Drive  
Bloomington, IN 47401

SRF Project Number:                         DW 12 02 53 04

Authorized Representative:                 Patrick Murphy, Director  
City of Bloomington Utilities

### II. PROJECT LOCATION

Bloomington is in Monroe County. These professional services do not involve construction activity.

### III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The scope of this project is to finance a portion of the engineering services, financial and legal professional services for the Monroe Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Expansion and the Southeast Water System Improvement projects. The engineering services for both projects will consist of design engineering, bid phase services, construction phase services, resident engineering services, SCADA configuration and startup services, and standard operational procedures manual. The financial services will consist of providing financial and accounting analysis. The legal services will consist of providing legal opinions and bond counsel services.

The city proposes to construct improvements to the Monroe WTP and Intake area consisting of two filters; additional pumping capacity at the Lower Service Pump Station, Transfer Pump Station and the High Service Pump Station; electrical substation replacement and upgrades; increase in flocculation/sedimentation basin capacity; additional alum storage tank, and a new day tank with associated feed pumps. The Southeast Water System Improvements consist of installation of approximately 39,000 feet of 24-, 30- and 36-inch diameter water transmission main, 2 million gallon (MG) elevated storage tank, and a 12 million gallon per day (MGD) pump station.

The improvements are necessary for the city to meet both state and federal regulatory issues, existing and future water quantity demands, provide greater operational efficiencies and redundancies, and to replace aging equipment that has gone beyond its useful life.

There are no feasible alternatives to the proposed action. The "No Action" alternative was rejected by the city, since the need to fund the professional services associated with the improvements at the WTP and the Southeast Water System would not be addressed.

#### IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COST AND FUNDING

##### A. Selected Plan Estimated Cost Summary

| <u>Components</u>                                  | <u>Costs</u>        |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Monroe WTP Expansion Engineering                | \$ 2,730,415        |
| 2. Southeast Water System Improvements Engineering | 2,735,000           |
| 3. Financial Fees                                  | 9,066               |
| 4. Legal Fees                                      | 64,755              |
| 5. Other Financial Expenses                        | <u>505,764</u>      |
| <b>Total Project Costs</b>                         | <b>\$ 6,045,000</b> |

B. The city will borrow approximately \$6,045,000 through a 20-year State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program (SRF) loan at an interest rate to be determined at loan closing. The city has financed the construction of the projects and the balance of the engineering, financial and legal services through a bond issue of \$35,955,000.

#### V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The engineering, financial and legal services project will have no physical impact on the environment. Consistent with the implementing regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act, the SRF has determined that the proposed undertaking is not a type of activity that has the potential to effects to historic properties.

#### VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Properly noticed public rate hearings were held to discuss the projects. The public rate hearings were held on April 28, 2010 and May 17, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers at the Showers City Hall to discuss the expansion and improvements. The city did not receive written comments in the 5-day period following the hearings.